



A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Well, what a year! Doesn't time fly by? As usual, we have been very busy and have come up with many new ideas, some of which are now happening.

The 1 in 7 and Tinnitus groups are taking off and Hearing Support is busy as usual. It's all systems go!

Amanda and Rachel have been working very hard and are a great asset to the deaf centre and deaf community. In spite of being incredibly busy, they always find time for everybody.

We were sorry to have lost Elspeth, our office administrator, but she has gone to pastures new with full time hours. We wish her every success for the future.

The centre has recently been partially re-decorated by volunteers from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. We give thanks to them for their time and efforts and for a job well done. We have recently renewed the hot water system and have other projects are in hand for the new year.

We have lots of exciting events to look forward to in the last few months of the year as you will see advertised in the rest of the newsletter.

I would like to take this opportunity to give my thanks to Amanda and Rachel for their good running of the centre and also to the volunteers for their work and their desire to help deaf and hard of hearing people. My sincere thanks to you all and to those who use the services at the deaf centre.

Wishing you all a very merry Christmas and a prosperous new year.

Rick Cotton
Chairman



A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSOCIATION MANAGER

Welcome to the Autumn edition of WNDAs News. My how time flies, it doesn't seem long since we were thinking about long hot summer days (which sadly didn't materialise again this year!)

We have just held our first Halloween party at the Deaf Centre and much fun was had by all. The meeting room was turned into a ghoulish den and the event attracted lots of children and adults who entered into the spirit of the occasion by wearing full fancy dress. The evening was such a success that it promises to be a regular event. Special thanks to Rachel Weir and Sarah Cox for their creative genius and many hours of hard work.

The Deaf Centre is hosting a variety of fundraising and social events over the next few weeks and there will be a hive of activity. Its so good that user numbers are increasing and we hope that there is something to suit everyone, if you haven't ventured along to anything yet I hope some of the photographs in this edition of WNDAs News will spark your interest. We guarantee a warm welcome and an opportunity to meet people who are affected by or interested in deafness.

With Christmas fast approaching and the weather temperatures dipping many of us are feeling the effect of the credit crunch. It's interesting to see that top chefs are encouraging us to try cheaper cuts of meat and go back to basic home cooking. With fuel costs soaring many of us are deciding to leave the car at home and walk, cycle or use public transport. Some say it's a matter of reverting back to what happened in times gone by. Its funny how times change, maybe we'll all end up fitter and healthier for making these changes!

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous and healthy New Year.

Amanda

HEARING SUPPORT SERVICE

SERVICE UPDATE

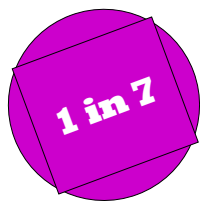
The Hearing Support Service is gaining strength steadily. Our home visits are still popular and widely used throughout West Norfolk. In addition we have established Hearing Support Clinics in the community to ensure that our service is more accessible. We have clinics in Gayton Road Health Centre, Dersingham Surgery and St Augustines Healthy Living Centre. These were established in July and are already attracting many new service users.



The Hearing Support Service has also set up a support group for those with tinnitus. It has been advertised extensively and is proving to be very successful so far. The 1 in 7 club was re-established recently and new events have been organised to appeal to the hearing aid wearers who will attend this group.

The Hearing Support Service is heavily reliant upon its team of volunteers who all dedicate many hours of their time to help provide our invaluable service.

A big thank you to them all.



Last Tuesday
of every month
10am-12noon

The 1 in 7 club is a new group for the hard of hearing. Whether you're hearing loss is moderate or severe, this group has lots to offer!

We provide a comfortable meeting place for social activities, guest speakers and other informative events.

Simply drop in and enjoy the club!

2008/9 dates:
25th November
27th January
30th February
31st March
28th April

Tinnitus Support Group

Do you suffer with tinnitus?
Do you need help to manage your tinnitus?

Would you like more information, advice and support from our Hearing Support Service?
Guest speakers and alternative therapies available for monthly meetings

First Friday of every month

10am-12noon

2008/9 dates:
7th November
5th December
6th February
6th March
3rd April
01st May

The Hearing Support Service will close for the Christmas holidays on 19th December. All services will resume on 5th January 2009



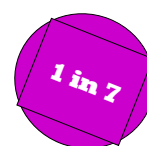


Are you confused by the benefits system?
Do you want to check that you're getting
the right benefits?
Are there any other benefits that you may
be entitled to?

**Come along to our free Pension and Benefits Advice Session
Provided by Graham Anderson, Benefits advisor
for the Pension Service**

**Tuesday 25th November
10am-12noon
At The Deaf Centre, Railway Road**

Book your place on 01553 773399



EQUIPMENT CLINIC

**The Social Services Sensory Support Unit and The West
Norfolk Deaf Association provide a drop-in clinic for people
who are either deaf or hard of hearing.**

**The clinic is held on the second Wednesday of each month
between 1:30pm—4:30pm**

Dates for the Equipment Clinic for 2009 are:

14th January

11th February

11th March

8th April

13th May

10th June

8th July

12th August

9th September

14th October

11th November

9th December

A loop system will be in use for all
presentations provided by the
West Norfolk Deaf Association



The new RNID catalogue is now
available at the Deaf Centre



HEARING SUPPORT SERVICE

Hearing Support Service Clinics

Drop in to any of our clinics for re-tubing, batteries, cleaning and repair of your hearing aids and for more information about equipment and other services available to you as a hearing aid wearer.

| Gayton Road Health Centre | Dersingham Surgey | St Augustine's Health Living Centre |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1st December | 15th December | _____ |
| 5th January | 19th January | 30th January |
| 2nd February | 16th February | 27th February |
| 2nd March | 16th March | 27th March |
| 6th April | 20th April | 24th April |
| 11th May | 18th May | 29th May |

Do you have a hearing loss?

Do you miss the beginning of sentences and the end of words?

Do you find you are missing bits of or getting left out of conversations?

Then why not join a LipReading Class?

To acquire and develop speech reading skills and to learn ways to cope with hearing loss.

For further information please telephone: 0844 800 8002
Minicom: 0844 800 8011 Or write to: Norfolk County Council, Adult Education, Wensum Lodge, King Street, Norwich NR1 1QW

VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

The Hearing Support Service needs volunteer advisors to provide support, advice and maintenance of hearing aids to our clients in their own homes and at our clinics around West Norfolk. If you, or anybody you know, can spare some time then we would love to hear from you.

You will need to use your own car, travel and any other expenses will be paid.

WNDCS AGM

The WNDCS committee meet four times a year, at times to suit all members. This year, the WNDCS will be looking to appoint a Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and other committee members.

The AGM will have guest speakers, Pip Johns, Family Support Officer and Sara Brierton Regional Director, Eastern Region from The National Deaf Children's Society. They will be talking about the services that the NDCS Family Support Team can offer to families of deaf children and will be available to answer questions. We look forward to seeing as many people as possible for an enjoyable and informative afternoon.

**WNDCS AGM
The Deaf Centre
Railway Road
Kings Lynn
Norfolk PE30 1NF**

**3rd December 2008
4.30—6.30pm**



The children are also invited along to enjoy Christmas craft activities in the upper room of the building, supervised by WNDCS volunteers.

Please RSVP for both events by 30th November



Sports for all!

The West Norfolk Deaf Children's Society would like your Ideas for a new venture.



We would like to provide a 10 week sports course for all the WNDCS members.

Which sport would you like to try?
Don't lose your right to vote.....Let us know...

CAMP BEAUMONT

On 5th August, the West Norfolk Deaf Children's Society had a fun-filled day of excitement at Pinewood Sands.

The event was made possible because of a generous grant from the National Deaf Children's Society.

Pinewood sands is perched on a fabulous cliff-top location right by the beach on the beautiful North Norfolk coast. The event was perfect for all ages and the camp boasted a huge list of exciting activities.

We were able to try Quad biking and climbing, and enjoyed our experiences of the zip wire and team challenge games. The children were able to exhaust the last of their energies in the laser zone.

We were lucky enough to have fine weather and a good time was had by all.





Annual English National Council 2008

As members of the WNDCS, Amanda Kenny and Rachel Weir recently attended the NDCS English National Council 2008, in London. The NDCS focussed on an update from the local groups team, delivered by Stephen Iliffe and Katy McCoy.

The NDCS have created a '**Good Group**' guide; a whole new on-line section dedicated to local groups.

The NDCS have created a **new training programme**. Between now and March 2009 each group will be visited by a local family Officer who will deliver a child protection briefing to the committee. They will ensure that all members of the committee are aware of child protection policy and that all members are CRB checked. The NDCS will pay for CRB checks for local group members.

The NDCS have produced **template marketing materials** for local groups, designed to promote our local group. They have also created our own page on the NDCS website. The page has sections to tell people about our group, what our aims and activities are and our contact details. We can add our newsletters and AGM minutes. There is also an 'events' section which will be linked to the NDCS 'what's on' calendar.

NDCS have created **shared membership**' opportunities on their website. They have added a tick box to the new family and professionals membership form to say 'if you would like us to share your details with your local group please tick here'. An online database will be created with all our members on.

The NDCS have promised **more support and co-operation**. They will be able to help support the set up of new groups and give advice and support for struggling groups. The NDCS listening bus will be able to come to local group events when they are in our area.

For more information please visit www.ndcs-groups.org.uk

Halloween Craft Day

Our Halloween craft day on 29th October was a scary affair !

Children from the West Norfolk Deaf Children's Society came along to try their hand at Pumpkin carving, scary wall paintings and Halloween crowns, to name a few. The children were able to take their craft activities home or leave them for the party on the following Friday. Many thanks to our volunteers, Peter Weston (the pumpkin man), Sarah Cox, Laura Kenny and Megan Winterbone.

I think you will agree that the children's crafts were FANTASTIC !!



To view more pictures please visit www.wnda.org.uk/halloween

Halloween Party Night

The Halloween Party on 31st October was a big event for the West Norfolk Deaf Children's society. Members of the group turned out in scary costumes and joined in with the fun and games.

Professional magician, Tom Rudden, gave a spellbinding performance . How did he do those tricks? I suppose we'll never know.



To view more pictures please visit www.wnda.org.uk/halloween

WEST NORFOLK DEAF CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

KINGS LYNN DEAF CLUB

The Deaf Club continues to be well attended. In August we welcomed our Deaf friends from March Deaf Club who visited us after their annual outing which was this year to Holt and Sheringham. We made a buffet tea for them and had a nice evening with bingo and a raffle. It was lovely to see them all. On the same evening we celebrated Jenny Rye's 70th birthday. We bought her a cake decorated with a picture of a church and a border collie dog. Our Christmas Shopping trip this year was to Ipswich on 8th November. After a busy day at the shops we went to Ipswich Deaf Club where we were made very welcome. They made us a delicious tea and we enjoyed a good social evening. Many of our members are enjoying attending the Thursday coffee morning. It's a chance for those who can't make it to Deaf Club on a Saturday evening to catch up with their friends.



Happy Christmas from everyone at Kings Lynn Deaf Club.

COFFEE MORNING

Thursday coffee mornings are proving popular with increasing numbers of Deaf people attending. We have had some interesting presentations so far including Warm Front, Pension Service, Bee Keeping and Diabetes UK.

We held two events for food fortnight which tickled everyone's taste-buds. On 6th November we in were invited to Crofters Coffee shop for a morning of tea and coffee tasting. On 10th November we visited Kwai's Chinese Takeaway in Reffley to learn how to cook perfect Chinese food. Kwai was an excellent host and a great teacher, most of us went away vowing to try out our new skills at home.

Future events are:

27th November

10am—presentation by **Norfolk Fire Service** with refreshments provided by Tesco's.

18th December

Christmas celebrations - Food, fun and games

New events will be added so if you haven't given it a try, come along and join us.

WEST NORFOLK DEAF GOLFER'S



DEAF COMMUNITY

WNDA were delighted to be successful in obtaining a grant from Active Norfolk to organise golf tuition for Deaf people. The funding has enabled us to arrange 10 weekly golf lessons at Eagles Golf Centre with professional golfer Sam Cubitt, supported by Trisha Wright as communicator. The group are enjoying the golf so much that some of them are heading along to Eagles for extra sessions in between. When the tuition is complete the Deaf Golfers plan to continue with this sport and when they feel confident enough hope to find another Deaf golf group to challenge in a tournament.
Watch out Tiger Woods!



Congratulations!



On 16th July this year David and Jenny Cave celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary. The couple, who are well known members of the Deaf Community, celebrated their 25 years of wedded bliss by inviting friends and family to join them for an Indian meal at the India Gate restaurant. A great evening was had by all. Everyone at WNDA wishes the couple love and happiness for the next 25 years!

Happy Birthday!



WNDA Trustee Jenny Rye, celebrated her 70th Birthday in August this year. Jenny is also a member of the King's Lynn Deaf Club committee and is involved in its running. Jenny was presented with a beautiful birthday cake at the August Deaf Club. Congratulations Jenny, from all at WNDA.

Congratulations!

In July, Keith Broadwater celebrated a work life milestone by achieving 40 years service at Norfolk County Services. Keith is a groundsman with NCS and started working at the company the day after he left school. To mark Keith's Achievement the company presented him with £200 and a bouquet of flowers. Well done Keith. We're sure you must be a great asset to NCS.

Craft Fair

The WNDA would like to say a very big thank you to Gillian Weston and her helpers, for her hugely successful craft fairs. Gillian works extremely hard to organise the Hunstanton Craft Fairs that raise a large amount of money for the Deaf Centre. We are very grateful for her efforts and time. Thank you Gillian!

The last craft date for 2008 is 6th December from 10am—3.30pm at the Hunstanton Town Hall.

Tombola!

We are always in need of prizes for the tombola stall at the craft fair, so if you have any unwanted gifts, or feel that you could donate something, please contact us.

We are also in need of volunteers for this once a month fundraising activity so please do get in touch if you could spare us some of your time. Thank you.



Fingerspelling Cards

The WNDA have been fortunate enough to receive £129.25 from the Norwich & Peterborough Building Society to fund our Fingerspelling cards. These cards can be used by us in our work to teach deaf awareness and sign language in schools. We would like to say thank you to the Norwich & Peterborough for their generous donation.



Norfolk County Services

WNDA would like to thank Norfolk County Services, who employ Deaf groundsman, Keith Broadwater, for their generous donation of £500 towards our roof project.

Thank you from all staff and users of the Deaf Centre.





deafconnexions

Advocacy Workers for Deaf people

Two part time posts - 17.5 hrs per week each

Contract until March 2010

One based in Norwich covering central and Great Yarmouth areas

One based in Kings Lynn covering West Norfolk

Salary £16,536 - £18,430 pro rata
Progression following assessment bar to £18,907 - £20,736 on successful appraisal and qualifications.

This is an exciting new project to provide support to the Deaf Community of Norfolk.

Applicants will need to have;
Good BSL communication skills,
Good understanding of Deaf Culture and be able to work in a flexible manner

Closing date 28th November - interviews held the following week.

For a job description and application form please contact:

West Norfolk Deaf Association - 01553 773399 voice, 01553 774766 minicom, email wnda@btconnect.com for Kings Lynn area

Deaf Connexions - 01603 660889 voice, 01603 661113 minicom, email deafconnexions@btconnect.com for Norwich and Great Yarmouth area.

Would you like to receive your newsletter by Email?

If you are happy for us to do this then please let Rachel know on

Tel: 01553 773399
Fax: 01553 660483
Email: wnhss@btconnect.com

British Sign Language Courses

Level 1

Contact Adult Education
At St Margaret's House
Kings Lynn
Norfolk
PE30 5DR
0844 800 8002
www.norfolk.gov.uk/adulteducation

Level 2 and pre level 3

Contact Perceptions
At 95 Buckingham Road
Norwich
NR4 7DE
Tel: 01603 451196
Fax: 01603 451196
SMS: 07733 4442903
Email: info@perceptions-uk.com

www.wnda.org.uk

WNDA's new website is now up and running. We are gradually adding more and more to the site so please keep viewing it, and enjoy it.

A big ongoing thank you to our website designer Jim, who continues to put in lots of time, patience and skill into our fantastic website.

Thanks Jim!

OTHER NEWS

CELEBRATE ABILITY

Wednesday 19th November 2008
2.00pm - 5.00pm
The Corn Exchange, Tuesday Market Place
Kings Lynn Norfolk

The WNDA attended this event to focus on the commitment of organisations and individuals in our local community who enable people with disabilities to lead an everyday life.

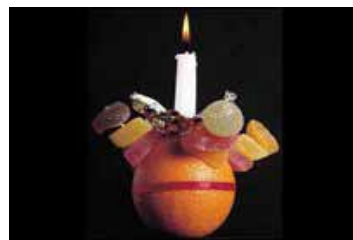
There were displays from local organisations along with information and mobility aids.

It was a wonderful opportunity for people who are disabled and their families to experience, in one place, what is available to help them with their day to day activities.



DEAF CHURCH

You are invited to a signed Christingle Service
at St Mary's Church South Wootton
4pm Christmas Eve
Seat reserved if you let Amanda or Jenny know that you are coming.



Thank you to you all !

To all those users of the WNDA and the Hearing Support Service for all donations given throughout the last year.